

PSYCHE.

GEORGE HENRY HORN.

GEORGE HENRY HORN, President of the American entomological society, died at Beesley's Point, N. J., November 24, 1897. He was born April 7, 1840, at Philadelphia. After attending the Central High School he entered the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in medicine in 1861. From 1862-1866 Dr. Horn was a surgeon in the United States army serving in California, Arizona, and New Mexico; here he gathered large collections especially in Coleoptera. On his return to Philadelphia Dr. Horn entered upon the practice of his profession; his skill in obstetrics soon brought him a large clientele. A few years ago he gave up active practice. Dr. Horn visited Europe on several occasions, and made a trip to California in 1893; with these exceptions his life was practically passed in Philadelphia, where he was active in scientific circles through his connection with the American entomological society, the Academy of natural sciences, and the American philosophical society; of the last he was librarian and one of the secretaries at the time of his death. Though nominally connected with the University of Pennsylvania, since 1890, as Professor of entomology, he never taught. Dr.

Horn was a charter member of the Entomological society of Philadelphia, the predecessor of the American entomological society, and an honorary or corresponding member of various entomological societies the world over. His collection and library, together with a modest sum of money, were bequeathed to the American entomological society. A physician by profession Dr. Horn was even earlier a naturalist. Before graduating from the medical school he had published a few papers on recent and fossil corals; the influence of Prof. Joseph Leidy, however, turned his attention to entomology, while the advice and friendship of Dr. John L. Leconte led him to devote himself to the study of the Coleoptera of Boreal America. He was distinctly Leconte's pupil, working in cooperation with him for many years, and, since 1883, easily the most eminent investigator in his chosen line of work; but few of his studies concerned extralimital forms, and though several were devoted to the habits and early stages, and at least one to fossil forms, his work deals almost entirely with North American Coleopterozoology from a systematic, descriptive standpoint. His

first entomological paper was entitled 'Descriptions of new North American Coleoptera in the cabinet of the Entomological society of Philadelphia' and was published in the Proc. acad. nat. sci. Phila., for 1866, p. 569-571. In the beginning his original work shows unmistakably his inexperience, but his great keenness and a true appreciation of the structural differences that characterize species soon became manifest, and is evident in most of his future publications. Dr. Horn was a rapid, accurate worker, a painstaking and careful delineator. His contributions number more than 150 important papers, in addition to very many minor notes; in these papers about 150 genera and more than 1550 species are defined, and very few

in either series are to be ranked as synonyms.

With but little interest in, and hardly enough appreciation or even toleration for, many lines of study, Horn's monographic work stands with the very best of his time, and though the death of Leconte, in 1883, was considered a calamity to his special branch of science, it may well be doubted if the death of Horn in 1897 is not a greater loss. Leconte left a well-equipped successor in Horn, but the successor of Horn is not yet apparent, and to be worthy of the place must follow closely along the lines so clearly marked out by the well-directed labors of John Lawrence Leconte and George Henry Horn.

PACIFIC COAST COLLECTING. — I.

BY ALBERT PITTS MORSE, WELLESLEY, MASS.

At the suggestion and with the coöperation of Mr. Samuel H. Scudder of Cambridge, Mass., I undertook last summer a collecting trip to the Pacific Coast of the United States to secure the Orthoptera inhabiting the region between the Sierra Nevada mountains and the sea. At his request I have put together a few notes which may prove of interest to entomologists contemplating a trip to that part of the country.

Of course, so great an extent of territory could be examined but superficially in one summer, but even this had never been done with special reference to the Orthoptera. And although twelve

weeks were devoted to the task it was found impossible to do more than make a cursory examination of the most important points directly on the through line of the railroad, and a few short side-trips to places that promised well. Had it been possible I should have visited several more points situated in less accessible but very interesting localities. The same amount of time could be profitably spent upon a much smaller area. Unless it be necessary to examine, however hastily, a large field the best method is to remain in each locality visited until its various features are adequately covered.